

## Message Text

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50

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 NIC-01 OPR-02 AID-20 RSR-01

/124 W

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P R 221300 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1844

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 2867

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, ELAB, NU

SUBJECT: TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO END CONSTRUCTION WORKERS  
STRIKE

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: MANAGUA 2860

1. JUNE 21 THE CHAMBER OF CONSTRUCTION AND THE  
CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNION ( SCAAS) NEGOTIATING  
IN THE OFFICE OF ACTING MINISTER OF LABOR MUNIZ  
OTERO REACHED THE FOLLOWING TENTATIVE AGREEMENT:

A. AN INCREASE IN SALARY FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS  
WILL BE NEGOTIATED. THIS INCREASE WILL COVER  
BOTH PIECE WORK AND HOURLY RATES.

B. WITHIN THREE DAYS OF SIGNATURE OF THIS DOCUMENT  
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THE PARTIES WILL NEGOTIATE A PERCENTAGE WAGE INCREASE USING AS A BASE POINT SCAAS' S DEMAND OF AN INCREASE FROM THREE CORDOBAS TO FIVE CORDOBAS AN HOUR FOR BRICKLAYERS AND FROM TWO CORDOBAS TO THREE FIFTY CORDOBAS AN HOUR FOR HELPERS.

C. THE NEGOTIATED WAGE SETTLEMENT WILL FORM THE FIRST ARTICLE OF A COLLECTIVE CONTRACT WHICH WILL BE NEGOTIATED WITHIN SIXTY DAYS.

D. THE WORKERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR SITES AS SOON AS THE ABOVE AGREEMENT IS APPROVED BY SCAAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

E. ALL WAGE INCREASES WILL BE RETROACTIVE TO THE DATE THAT THE STRIKE ENDS.

2. THIS AGREEMENT IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY BOTH THE CONSTRUCTION CHAMBER AND A SCAAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. BOTH OF THESE BODIES WILL MEET THE AFTERNOON OF JUNE 21. IF THE AGREEMENT IS RATIFIED, THE PARTIES EXPECT TO MEET TO SIGN THE UNDERSTANDING AT 8 PM JUNE 21. CONSTRUCTION SHOULD RESUME THE MORNING OF JUNE 22.

COMMENT: SCAAS COMPROMISED BY AGREEING TO RETURN TO WORK BEFORE A WAGE AGREEMENT IS NEGOTIATED. THE CONSTRUCTION CHAMBER COMPROMISED BY ACCEPTING THE SHORT THREE DAY PERIOD FOR WAGE NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEING TO PAY WAGES RETROACTIVELY TO THE DATE THE STRIKE ENDS. THIS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT MAY OFFER A SOLUTION TO THE LABOR PROBLEMS PLAGUING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND THE RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT. HOWEVER, MEETING THE TIGHT DEADLINES COULD PROVOKE FURTHER SHUTDOWNS.  
SHELTON

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** collinp0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MANAGU02867  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 102  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by collinp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980219  
**Subject:** TENTATIVE AGREEMENT TO END CONSTRUCTION WORKERS STRIKE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, PGOV, PINT, NU  
**To:** ARA  
GUATEMALA  
SAN JOSE  
SAN SALVADOR  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
TEGUCIGALPA  
USCINCSO

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005